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Attorney Docket No.: 021360-015300US

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

On 8-9-02

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

By: Karen Karlin

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of:

L. Rosenberg *et al.*

Application No.: 09/153,781

Filed: 09/16/98

For: NETWORKED APPLICATIONS
INCLUDING HAPTIC FEEDBACK

Examiner: Bell, Paul A.

Art Unit: 2675

AMENDMENT

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Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed March 14, 2002, Applicants cancel claim 77 and respectfully request reconsideration of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e).

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1-9, 11-21, 24-31, 33-41, 44-45, 47-48, 51-61, 63-64, 66-73, 75-80, 83-89, 91-93 and 95-99 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as being anticipated by Woolston (U.S. Patent No. 6,162,123). Claims 10 and 32 were earlier cancelled. The Examiner indicated the allowability of claims 22-23, 42-43, 46, 49-50, 62, 65, 74, 81-82, 90, 94 and 100 but objected to those claims as being dependent on rejected base claims. Applicant traverses the rejection of each of the now-pending rejected claims, as set forth below, requesting reconsideration. The objections to the otherwise-allowable claims would be overcome by the

reconsiderable and allowance of the rejected claims, so the objections need not be separately addressed to be fully responsive.

The Present Application

The present application was filed on September 16, 1998 and is claimed as a continuation in part of U.S. Application No. 09/050,665 filed March 30, 1998, which in turn claimed priority from several additional applications, all of which were filed prior to the earliest priority date of the Woolston reference. Therefore, to the extent that a rejected claim is supported by at least one of the prior-filed applications, such a claim enjoys a priority date that predates the filing of the Woolston reference and consequently withdrawal of the rejection of such claim over Woolston would be proper and necessary.

By way of example, this application claims priority to U.S. Patent Application No. 08/664,086 filed June 14, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 6,028,593 (hereinafter "the '593 Patent"), and to U.S. Patent Application No. 08/691,852 filed Aug. 1, 1996, now U.S. Patent No. 5,956,484 (hereinafter "the '484 Patent").

Each of the rejected claims is supported by and enjoys a priority date earlier than the filing date of Woolston, as explained below.

Claim Priority

Claim 1 enjoys a priority date at least as early as the filing date of the '593 Patent, since the '593 Patent alone shows, at least in Fig. 20 and column 47, line 20 to column 48, line 18, each of the elements of claim 1. The '484 Patent also alone fully supports claim 1, at least in column 3, line 38 to column 4, line 8, each of the elements of claim 1.

Claim 2 enjoys a priority date at least as early as the filing date of the '484 Patent, since the '484 Patent shows, at least in column 3, lines 8-40 and lines 47-65, each of the elements of claim 2. Claim 2 depends from claim 1, and as explained above, claim 1 is fully supported by the '484 Patent. The additional limitations of claim 2 are supported at least in column 3, lines 8-40 and lines 47-65 of the '484 Patent.

Claim 3 enjoys a priority date at least as early as the filing date of the '484 Patent, since the '484 Patent shows, at least in Fig. 1 and column 5, lines 50-58., each of the elements of